

The New Utrecht Reformed Church
23rd of November 2008

225th Anniversary
Evacuation of Brooklyn Day

100th Anniversary
New Utrecht Liberty Pole Association



We are a Friendly People seeking to Share Christ's Love!
We Welcome You to our Worship!

The Reformed Church in America is a fellowship of congregations called by God and empowered by the Holy Spirit to be the very presence of Jesus Christ in the world.

18th Avenue between 83rd and 84th Streets

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Visit our Website: www.newutrechtchurch.org Vincent La Marca, Webmaster

Ministers, The People of New Utrecht and The Reverends Terry Troia & Robert Peterson
Consistory Vice-President, Elder Susan Hanyen

The Members of the Consistory

Board of Elders Erik Ander, Pam Ander, Susan Hanyen, Rita Hollenga

Board of Deacons Carol Dickert, Rose Lood, Michelle Paradies, Deborah Siciargo

We invite you to maintain a spirit of silence as the prelude begins our service.

OUR APPROACH TO GOD

Prelude

Introit "We Gather Together"

Welcome & Call to Worship: A Native American Prayer by Black Elk

Then I was standing on the highest mountain of them all,

AND ROUND BENEATH ME WAS THE WHOLE HOOP OF THE WORLD.

And while I stood there I saw more than I can tell,

AND I UNDERSTOOD MORE THAN I SAW.

For I was seeing in the sacred manner the shape of all things of the spirit

AND THE SHAPES AS THEY MUST LIVE TOGETHER LIKE ONE BEING.

And I saw that the sacred hoop of my people was one of many hoops that make one circle, wide as daylight and starlight,

AND IN THE CENTER GREW ONE MIGHTY FLOWERING TREE

To shelter all the children of one mother and one father.

AND I SAW THAT IT WAS HOLY.

*Hymn "My Country 'Tis of Thee"

Let us pause in silence before our God.

Prayer in Unison **GACIOUS GOD, WHEN THE STRUGGLES OF LIFE HEM ME IN ON EVERY SIDE, OPEN ME TO THE FREEDOM OF YOUR PRESENCE THAT CAN HELP ME SEE BEYOND EVERY RESTRICTION, EVERY LIMIT THAT BINDS ME. O GOD, GIVE ME THE WISDOM TO SEE THE SUBTLE WAYS PEOPLE CAN BE ENSLAVED AND THE COURAGE TO SPEAK FOR THOSE WHO HAVE NO VOICE. I ASK THIS FOR THE SAKE OF YOUR LOVE.**

O GOD, WHEN WE WAKE TO YET ANOTHER DAY OF WONDER AND JOY IN THE BEAUTY OF YOUR CREATION, GIVE US THE HEART TO KEEP OUR NEEDS SIMPLE, OUR DESIRES SOFT, OUR WILLS PLIABLE, SO THAT WE NEVER PARTICIPATE IN THE EXPLOITATION OF THE EARTH WHICH IS THE WORK OF YOUR HANDS OR THE EXPLOITATION OF ONE ANOTHER, BECAUSE ALL PEOPLE ARE WORK OF YOUR HEART.

Kyrie (sung) **LORD HAVE MERCY UPON US. CHRIST HAVE MERCY UPON US.
LORD HAVE MERCY UPON US.**

A Word of Assurance: Micah 4: 3

They shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more; but they shall all sit under their own vines and fig trees, and no one shall make them afraid.

The Summary of the Law (Mk 12: 29-31)

This is the first commandment:

HEAR O ISRAEL, THE LORD OUR GOD, THE LORD IS ONE! THEREFORE YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART, WITH ALL YOUR SOUL, WITH ALL YOUR MIND, AND WITH ALL YOUR STRENGTH.

This is the second commandment.

YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF.

There is no greater commandment than these.

Anthem "Sing to the Lord of Harvest" H. Willan

THE WORD OF GOD

*Responsive Reading: An excerpt from "Liberation is Costly" by Archbishop Desmond Tutu
Liberation is costly. Even after the Lord had delivered the Israelites from Egypt, they had to travel through the desert.
THEY HAD TO BEAR THE RESPONSIBILITIES AND DIFFICULTIES OF FREEDOM.

There was starvation and thirst and they kept complaining.

WE MUST REMEMBER THAT LIBERATION IS COSTLY. IT NEEDS UNITY.

We must hold hands and refuse to be divided. We must be ready.

LET US BE UNITED. LET US BE FILLED WITH HOPE, LET US BE THOSE WHO RESPECT ONE ANOTHER.

All people of Christian faith are welcome to join us as we conclude this prayer of praise:

*Gloria Patri (Hymn No 623) **GLORY BE TO THE FATHER AND TO THE SON AND TO THE HOLY GHOST, AS IT WAS IN THE BEGINNING, IS NOW AND EVER SHALL BE, WORLD WITHOUT END, AMEN, AMEN!**

Non Christians are invited to sing to the same tune: **GLORY TO THE CREATOR, OUR GOD WHO LIVES AMONG EACH ONE OF US, GIVING THANKS FOR ALL WE'RE GIVEN, GIVING THANKS FOR ALL SHARE NOW, LET US LIVE IN PEACE. AMEN!**

The Greeting of Peace and Special Greetings

"Liberty" by Mikael Nalbandian (1829-1866)

Meditation The Reverend Terry Troia

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD

"Bless this House" M. Brathe

*The Offering, Doxology (625) and Prayer

PRAISE GOD FROM ALL WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW; PRAISE GOD ALL CREATURES HERE BELOW; PRAISE GOD ABOVE YE HEAVENLY HOSTS; PRAISE FATHER (CREATOR), SON (CHRIST) AND HOLY GHOST. AMEN

(Non-Christians are invited to sing this verse in place of the Triune Doxology above.)

PRAISE GOD, THE LOVE WE ALL MAY SHARE. PRAISE GOD, OUR BEAUTY, EVERYWHERE. PRAISE GOD, THE HOPE OF GOOD TO BE. PRAISE GOD, THE TRUTH THAT MAKES US FREE. AMEN!

A Time of Giving Thanks and Praise

*Hymn 572 "America the Beautiful"

Postlude

Prayers of the People ending in the Lord's Prayer

Response to the Benediction

*Please stand if you are able.

The flowers gracing the sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of our beloved parents, Josephine & Henry & Uncle Victor E. Truden and loved ones by the Safay family.

Our sincere thanks to the New Utrecht Liberty Pole Association and its president, Rose Lood and the Friends of Historic New Utrecht and its president, Bob Buonvino and the Liberty Weekend Committee and its Chairperson, Angela Sarro and the Consistory and Congregation of the New Utrecht Reformed Church and its Vice President, Susan Hanyen and all of our local elected officials, for all your hard work: We thank you!!!

My country, 'tis of thee,
Sweet land of liberty,
Of thee I sing;
Land where my fathers died,
Land of the pilgrims' pride,
From every mountainside,
Let freedom ring!

My native country, thee,
Land of the noble free,
Thy name I love;
I love thy rocks and rills,

Thy woods and templed hills;
My heart with rapture thrills,
Like that above.

No more shall tyrants here
With haughty steps appear,
And soldier bands;
No more shall tyrants tread
Above the patriot dead—
No more our blood be shed
By alien hands.

Let music swell the breeze,
And ring from all the trees,
Sweet freedom's song;
Let mortal tongues awake;
Let all that breathe partake;
Let rocks their silence break,
The sound prolong.

Our fathers' God, to Thee,
Author of liberty,
To Thee we sing;
Long may our land be bright
With freedom's holy light;
Protect us by Thy might,
Great God, our King.

History

The First Liberty Pole

The first Liberty Pole was erected on November 25, 1783 at the end of the Revolutionary War. The flag of the new republic, a flag with thirteen stars and bars, was hoisted to the top of this first Pole. Traditionally, poles such as this one were associated with celebrations of peace accompanied by marching, music and other festivities made popular after the British evacuation.

The Second Liberty Pole

The second Liberty Pole was raised on January 1, 1834. Thirteen men danced around it singing patriotic songs as veterans and the townspeople of New Utrecht rejoiced. Ceremonies, including the firing of a cannon, were followed by a ball that evening.

The Third Liberty Pole

The third Liberty Pole was raised in May 1867. Children were dismissed from school so that they could assemble with their elders on the town green in solemn observance. This Pole was reset in May 1899 by the descendants of those who raised it.

O beautiful for spacious skies,
For amber waves of grain,
For purple mountain majesties
Above the fruited plain!

America! America!
God shed His grace on thee,
And crown thy good with brotherhood
From sea to shining sea!

O beautiful for pilgrim feet
Whose stern passion'd stress
A thoroughfare for freedom beat
Across the wilderness.

America! America!
God mend thine ev'ry flaw,
Confirm thy soul in self-control,
Thy liberty in law.

O beautiful for heroes prov'd
In liberating strife,
Who more than self their country loved,
And mercy more than life.

America! America!
May God thy gold refine
Till all success be nobleness,
And ev'ry gain divine.

O beautiful for patriot dream
That sees beyond the years
Thine alabaster cities gleam
Undimmed by human tears.

America! America!
God shed His grace on thee,
And crown thy good with brotherhood
From sea to shining sea.



The Fourth Liberty Pole

The fourth Liberty Pole was presented by Townsend Cortelyou and Elizabeth Van Pelt and raised on September 10, 1910. The newly organized Boy Scout Troop 20 participated in the Liberty Pole celebration held on November 25, 1910 and in the raising of Liberty Poles ever since.

The Fifth Liberty Pole

On July 14, 1936, the fourth Pole was struck by lightning and badly damaged. On November 25, 1936, the raising of the fifth Pole was celebrated.

The Sixth Liberty Pole

The sixth Liberty Pole was exhibited during the 1939-1940 World's Fair. By autumn 1945, it was raised on the same spot as the previous five Poles.